

NEWS from SEA:

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Or, a true

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RELATION

Brought from D O V E R

Of a terrible Tempest of

THUNDER and LIGHTNING;

Which on the 26 of July last kill'd outright one *William Eaton* of *Dover*, on board a Ship call'd the *Henry and Mary*, *David Huggett* Master, bound for *Newcastle*, and lying off of the *Kentish Knock*, and with its violence struck down a Boy, so that he lay as dead for a considerable time.

As likewise how the said Ships Top-mast was burnt with the Lightning, and her Main-mast strangely split with the Thunder, and rendred utterly unserviceable, &c.

The truth whereof is well known to most Inhabitants of *Dover*, there being many Eye-witnesses that saw the Tackling spoil'd and the said dead Corps, when the Vessel (disabled to pursue its Voyage) put in there again.

 Licensed Aug. 22. 1676.

 Ro. L'Estrange.

London : Printed for D. M.

NEW'S from 31st
of 1860
RELATION

For the month of
January and February

will be found in the
following pages
of the volume
of the month of
January and February
of the year 1860



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Strange and wonderful News from *Dover*, &c.

AMongst all the familiar Wonders which Almighty God performs and brings to pass in the world by the ministry of his Handmaid Nature, there is scarce any more remarkable than that of Thunder and Lightning: How confounded are the Learned in their searches after the cause? and how blinded when they go about to give a rational account of its effects? The proud Heathen Emperor whom his own vanity and others Batteries had puff'd up with a conceit of his being little less than a Deity, when once he heard a Volley of Heavens Artillery discharg'd in a Thunder clap, confess'd himself less than man, and in a ridiculous Cowardize endeavour'd to hide himself under a bed: Nor can the most steeled Atheist or mocker of Religion weather a Tempest without betraying his guilty fears with the trembling of his Joynts & the paleness of his Countenance.--*The voice of thy*
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thunder maketh them afraid, saith the *Psalmist*: and well it may, if we consider either the astonishing Horrour it carries with it in its manner, or the lamentable Disasters frequently occasion'd thereby. Of both these the present Relation is a sad and sufficient Testimony.

On *Wednesday* the 26th of *July* last, a Ship call'd the *Henry* and *Mary* belonging to *Dover*, Mr. D. H. Master, being outward bound for *Newcastle* (the *Northern Indies* of our little *British* world) lying at an Anchor off of the *Kentish Knock*, a mighty Tempest of Thunder and Lightning arose; the whole Hemisphere from the *Zenith* to the *Horizon* was overspread with thick pitchy Clouds, which permitted little more light than what proceeded from terrible and frequent Flashes. The roaring seem'd so great, as if the whole frame of the World had been about to be dissolved, and every Star hurl'd from its Sphere, to be violently bandied against the rest. In the midst of this amazing Conflict of the Elements, a Thunder-bolt (or what is usually so call'd) happen'd to light upon the aforesaid Ship, and in a moment struck one of the Ships Crew, nam'd *William Eaton*, stone-dead upon the Deck, and yet not the least appearance of a wound to be discovered about his whole body, but some parts of it turn'd very black, or of an unusual Livid colour; and at the same time a Boy belonging to the Master, was likewise struck down and lay

lay for dead a considerable time without breathing sensibly, or giving any Symptomes of Life, save only his continuing warm; which encouraged them, as soon as they had leisure, to use means for his Recovery, which at last they obtained, bringing him again to life, and he is like to do well; but for the present was miserably bruised in all parts of his Body, and yet nothing did touch him but the Lightning, nor was his Skin any way broken: But as for the other man, he was absolutely struck dead in an instant, no Art or Means being able to recover him.

But besides this particular personal Damage, the whole Ship was in no little danger; For their Top-mast was set on fire by the Lightning, and burning furiously was very like to have destroyed them; but bestirring themselves with that diligence which became them in such an exigence, they prevented that disaster, though the said Mast (as they report) continued burning all Night.

Nor did their Main-Mast escape much better, for it was split in two above half way, and each part wrythed and twisted round like a Wyth, very strange and wonderful to behold, so that it was rendred utterly unserviceable: And that which makes this Accident more remarkable is, that there lay another Ship just by, who received not the least damage or prejudice in her Men or Tackling.

We have it lately asserted in Print from good Authority, that Two Ships sayling to the *West-Indies*, about the Latitude of *Bermudas*, a tempest of Thunder setting part of one of their Rigging on fire, with other damage, caused this wonder too, That the Needle of their Compass shifted its Points clean contrary, stand'g to the *South* instead of the *North*, which misled the Marriners, so that they shap'd their Course directly back again; and yet did not dream but they had been very orderly pursuing their Voyage, till the other Ship admiring at it Tackt, and coming up to them found out the mistake, and lent them a pair of Compasses, for all the Compasses the other had on board were changed as aforesaid; and if they turn'd the Needle with their finger to the *North*, it would not fix, but presently return to the *South* Point: Whether any such thing were observed in the present Case, I cannot affirm; but this is certain, that they were forced to put in again at *Dover*, where they Rested, and the dead body being there brought ashore, was buried, having been first viewed by divers people.

What remains, but that all Persons that shall read or hear this sad and most true Relation, be intreated and seriously admonish'd to consider and lay to heart, the great uncertainty of Life; How strangely, how unexpectedly, how suddenly, in a moment, may we be snatcht away:
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And then what manner of persons ought we to be in all Godliness and holy Conversation, lest that Day, that terrible moment of Death, come upon us not only unawares, but take us unprepared without an Interest in Christ, or any assurance obtained of Reconciliation and Peace with God, or of his Love and Pardon to our poor immortal Souls; let us not defer Repentance, let us not put off Amendment of Life (as too many do) until to morrow, for who knows but this Hour, this Minute may be our last?

Nor may this less stir us up to a constant and conscientious performance of the Duty of Prayer, which as it is ever profitable, and at all times commendable, so it is dayly needful; at Night it is our Covering, in the Morning 'tis our Armour: Nor can we at any time promise our selves the least Safety or Security, but what we obtain from the Almighty's protective providence. I was credibly informed, that about two Months ago, a Minister of an eminent Town in the *West of England*, upon a great Tempest of Thunder and Lightening hapning in the Night, having called up his whole Family to wait upon the Lord in Prayer, as they were on their knees in a Parlour, a Thunder-bolt (or what you please to call it) came in at the top of the house, and so down through several Chambers, tearing the Timber and Walls, and making great havock as it passed, till it came to the said Parlour, which
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it went clear through, and struck out the Candle, with so much terrour, that each person thought all the rest were destroyed. But the gracious God they were calling upon, preserved them all safe, so that not a Hair of any persons Head present was hurt thereby.

So good it is in all our dangers and distresses to cast our selves in Faith upon the God of our Salvation, who never deceiveth those that trust in him: Let us all therefore, warned by such frequent Examples, labour while it is called to day, to work out our Salvation with fear and trembling: Let us daily live as if every day we expected to die: Let us walk soberly and righteously in this present evil world; and in all our outgoings, undertakings, and perils, commit our selves to the Mercies of God as unto a faithful Treasurer, and then no evil shall happen unto us.

I was credibly informed, that about two Months ago, a Minister of a dissenting Town in the West of England, upon a great Tempest of Thunder and Lightning falling in the Night, having called up his Parish to wait upon the Lord in prayer, as they were on their knees in a Church, a Thunder-bolt came in at the top of the steeple, and went through the roof, tearing the timber and Walls, and making great havoc as it passed, till it came to the steeple, which

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